

**REMARKS****Paragraph 1 of the Office Action**

5 Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 USC §112 second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 1, 3, 4 and 20 have been amended in a manner believed to overcome the rejection.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested by the applicant.

10

**Paragraphs 2-11 and 13 of the Office Action**

Claims 1-16 and 18 are rejected variously under 35 USC §102(b) and 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Claim 17 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, set forth in this Office Action and to  
15 include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include claim 17 and all intervening claims. Based on the Examiner's statements, it is believed that amended claim 1, and all claims depending therefrom, is in condition for allowance.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested by the applicant.

20

**Paragraph 12 of the Office Action**

Claim 20 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph, set forth in this Office Action.

Claim 20 has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

25

**CONCLUSION**

5

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, early consideration and allowance of this application are most courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

10



Sean A. Kaufhold (Reg. No. 46,820)

P.O. Box 131447

15

Carlsbad, CA 92013

(760) 470-3368 FAX (760) 736-8449

Date:

1/10/05